

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HONG K 04642 130601Z
ACTION ICAE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 SP-02 CIAE-00
INR-10 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 /031 W
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FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9884

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STATE FOR CU/PC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EINV, SGEN, SOPN, HK
SUBJECT: EXAMPLES OF GOOD CORPORATE CITIZENSHIP

REF: STATE 51579

1. MOST OF MNC'S IN HONG KONG MAKE FREQUENT CONTRIBUTIONS TO LOCAL CHARITIES, CULTURAL EVENTS, YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS AND THE LIKE (AND MANY INDIVIDUAL AMERICANS DEVOTE CONSIDERABLE PERSONAL TIME TO A VARIETY OF LOCAL PROJECTS). HOWEVER, THE MNC HERE WHETHER AMERICAN OR THIRD-COUNTRY SELDOM UNDERTAKE MAJOR COMMUNITY PROJECTS OF THE KIND SOUGHT BY REFTEL. THERE WAS ONE MAJOR PROJECT UNDERTAKEN TWO YEARS AGO AND THERE ARE SEVERAL ONGOING COMPANY PROGRAMS FOR SCHOLARSHIP AND OTHER AWARDS.

2. THE ONE MAJOR PROJECT WAS A FUND RAISING EXERCISE LED BY MOBIL OIL BEGINNING IN 1967 AND EXTENDING THROUGH 1972 TO RAISE US\$200,000 FOR THE FURNISHINGS AND SWIMMING POOL OF THE BENJAMIN FRANKLIN STUDENT CENTER OF THE NEW CHINESE UNIVERSITY. THE BUILDING HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN FUNDED BY GRANTS FROM THE ASIA FOUNDATION AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT. GIVEN MOBIL'S EFFORTS, THE STUDENT CENTER IS A 100 PERCENT US FUNDED PROJECT AND FILLED A REAL NEED.

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3. ON THE SCHOLARSHIP SIDE, MOBIL ONCE AGAIN TAKES THE HONORS AS IT SPONSORS TWO SCHOLARSHIPS EACH YEAR TO THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY AT AN AVERAGE COST PER ANNUM OF US \$1,000. ADDITIONALLY, THE TEXTILE COMMITTEE OF THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN HONG KONG PROPOSES TO SPONSOR A DESIGN AWARD TO THE BEST YOUNG FASHION DESIGNER OF THE ANNUAL HONG KONG READY-TO-WEAR

FESTIVAL AT A PROJECTED COST OF US\$200.

4. NO EXAMPLES WERE FOUND OF US MNC'S APPLYING THEIR PARTICULAR EXPERTISE IN RESOLUTION OF LOCAL PROBLEMS. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT IS BOTH SOPHISTICATED AND PROSPEROUS THUS OBVIATING ANY NEED FOR SUCH HELP.

5. THIS MESSAGE WAS CLEARED IN SUBSTANCE WITH THE AMERICAN CHAMBER WHICH WAS UNABLE TO SUPPLY ANY ADDITIONAL EXAMPLES.
SHOESMITH

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Message Attributes

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